

PRESS RELEASE

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INDUSTRY BUILDS FOR THE FUTURE

Homes for Scotland, the organisation that represents companies building 95% of the country's new homes, has announced that it is increasing its staff numbers in order to deal with the growing demands on the industry and to expand services to members.

Membership of Homes for Scotland, which was established in 2001, has grown to now include over 80 house building companies. The organisation has also developed a strong associate membership of a further 50 companies which service and supply an industry which contributes nearly £5 billion to the Scottish economy and employs over 110,000 people across the country.

Executive Director Bruce Black said:

"We have made great strides over the past few years in terms of recognition and influence. With industry buy-in and external credibility, what we say and do is valued by members and listened to by politicians and the Scottish Executive.

We have seen real progress on hugely significant issues for the industry over the last year or so. In particular, in making the case to the Scottish Executive that the current planning system does not work and in securing commitments from Ministers to remove all development constraints arising from Scottish Water's investment priorities.

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The range of issues we are addressing and the work we are undertaking is increasing all the time, and it is apparent that the next couple of years will be just as busy and challenging. We have therefore decided to strengthen our staff resources and increase the size of our team through three new appointments in technical services, planning and support services to members."

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Notes to editors:

Homes for Scotland (<u>www.homesforscotland.com</u>) is the representative membership body for the home building and residential development industry in Scotland. Its member companies provide 95% of all new homes in Scotland. The industry is the largest user of the country's planning system and the largest source of private investment in the Scottish economy contributing nearly £5 billion and employing over 110,000 people.